

A NEW HARVESTMAN OF THE SUBFAMILY
LIOBUNINAE FROM AUSTRALIA

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Figs. 1-9

The species described below is the first record of the subfamily Liobuninae from Australia, the distribution of this subfamily having previously been limited to the northern areas of the world. It seems probable however, that when the Opilionid fauna is more completely known, it will prove to be well represented in Australia. The species described is placed in the genus *Nelima* Roewer. This genus has a wide distribution, including Europe, Asia and North Africa. The fusion of a number of tergites in the male, as is seen in *N. dunni* n.sp., is of common occurrence throughout the Liobuninae.

Order **OPILIONES**

Sub-order ***Palpatores* Thorell**

Family **PHALANGIIDÆ** Simon

Subfamily **Liobuninae** Banks.

Genus **NELIMA** Roewer.

Nelima dunni n. sp.

Female.

Colour. General colour of dorsal surface of body light chocolate-brown, but broken up by numerous small, closely spaced silvery-white splotches. Tergite 5 silvery white, without brown pigment. On the anterior portion along the middle line of each tergite is a reddish brown area, behind each such area the brown pigment is not as dense as in remainder of tergite, giving the appearance of a median longitudinal pale band broken by the reddish brown areas. Cephalothorax with a dark brown area at both the anterior and posterior corner. Eye-mound white along median line, dark brown laterally, eyes black. Entire ventral surface including coxæ opaque silvery-white. Legs and pedipalps light-brown.

Body. Entire dorsal surface very finely granulated. Eye mound not as high as wide, sub-spherical, set its own diameter from the anterior margin of the cephalothorax, with a deep median longitudinal groove, armed with a longitudinal row of small spines above each eye.

Cephalothorax divided behind eye mound by two transverse grooves which do not reach the lateral margin. Stink gland openings clearly visible on lateral margin of cephalothorax above coxa I. Anterior margin with a median indentation and lateral margin with three further indentations enclosing coxæ I, II and III, respectively.

Tergites not fused into a scute but clearly separated by transverse grooves which do not reach the sides. Sternites fused, segmentation only faintly visible; smooth, except for a scattered number of small black setæ. Genital operculum uniform, extending to posterior margin of coxa II.

Maxillary lobes of coxa II directed across the body anterior to the genital operculum, forming with each other a nearly straight line.

Legs. Coxæ smooth, except for scattered small black setæ; without anterior or posterior rows of granules. Trochantera smooth except for few small black setæ. Femora without nodules, closely covered with longitudinal rows of small black spines. Femur II relatively long and slender. Tibiæ, metatarsi and tarsi without spines. Metatarsi I-IV respectively with 2 . 5 . 1 . 4 false articulations.

Tarsal segments 45 . 71 . 35 . 35.

Chelicerae. Short, basal segment below with strong forwardly-directed spine at one-third. Both segments sparsely clothed with a number of short setæ. Fixed finger longer than movable finger; cutting edges toothed as in Fig. 3.

Pedipalpi. All segments clothed with short setæ. Tarsus with a number of long apically situated setæ. Tarsal claw strong, armed below with a single line of five strong teeth. (Fig. 7).

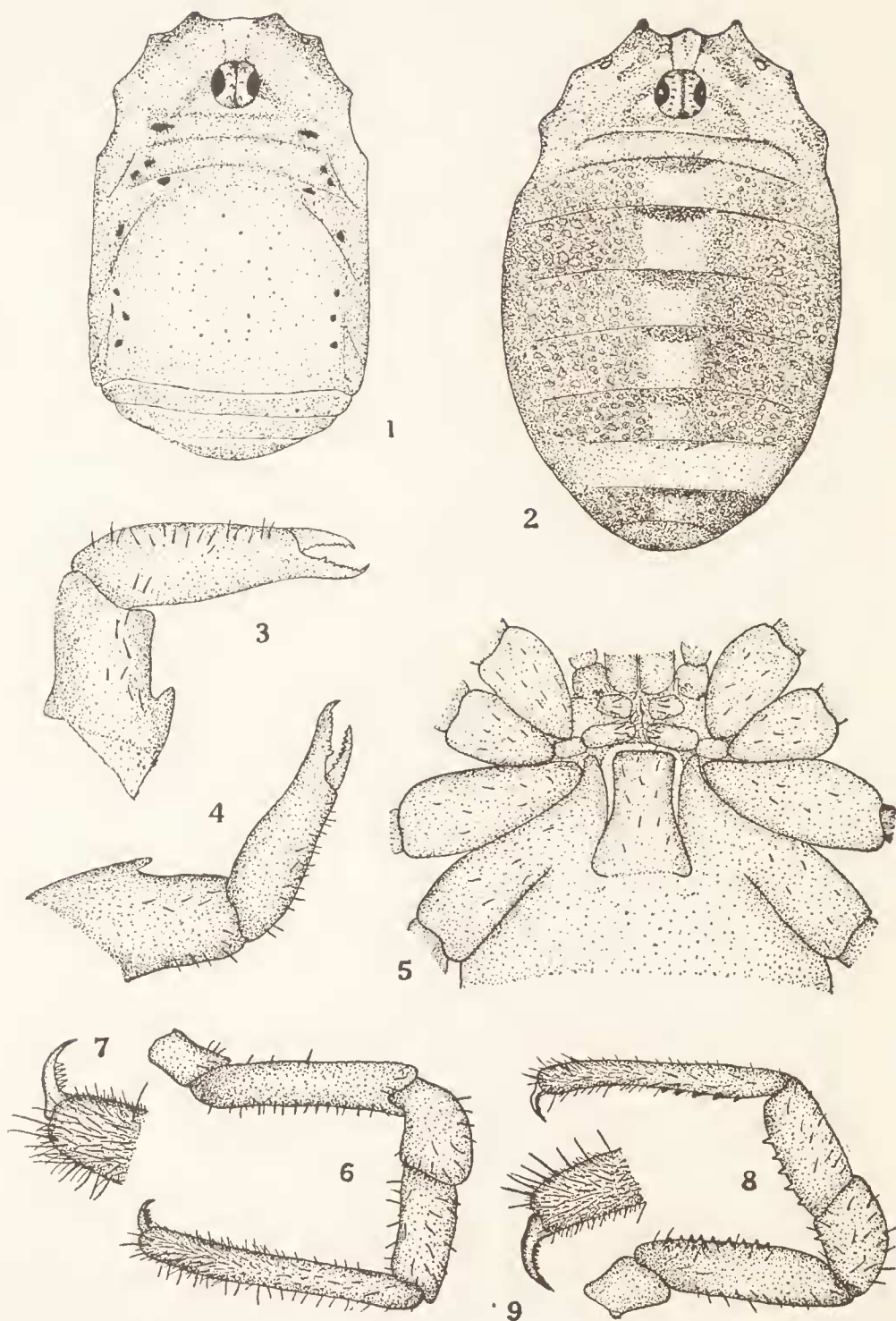
Measurements in mms. Body: Length 5.9; Width, 3.3.

	Cox.	Troch.	Fem.	Pat.	Tib.	Met.	Tars.	Total
Leg I	1.6	.25	2.9	.85	2.65	2.5	5.75	16.50
Leg II	1.25	.225	5.0	.85	5.5	2.7	14.5	30.025
Leg III	1.075	.3	2.75	.95	2.55	1.0	6.0	14.625
Leg IV	1.1	.25	4.35	1.0	3.6	3.0	9.0	22.30
Pedipalp25	.85	.35	.5		1.1	3.05

Chelicerae—Basal 1.0, Second 2.3. Total 3.3

Male.

Colour. Uniform yellowish-brown. Anterior corners of cephalothorax dark-brown. In some specimens the lateral dorsal margin of the abdomen is darker brown. Ventral surface yellowish-white with a few silverish blotches on the sternites. Pedipalp white. Chelicera uniformly brown. Legs light-brown proximally but darkening distally. Eye mound white along the median line, dark brown laterally—eyes black.



FIGS. 1-9

Body. Eye mound shape and disposition as in female. Entire dorsal surface finely granulated. Cephalothorax divided behind the eye mound by two deep transverse grooves which nearly extend to the sides. Anterior median indentation encloses chelicerae, three lateral indentations enclose respectively coxae I, II and III.

Tergites I-V fused into a hard scute, segmentation not visible. Tergites VI-VIII free. Sternites smooth, not granulated, clearly divided by transverse grooves.

Genital operculum widening distally and extending to the posterior margin of coxa I. Maxillary lobes as in female.

Legs. As in female but metatarsi I-IV respectively with 3. 4. 1 and 3 false articulations.

Chelicerae. As in female but second segment more slender.

Pedipalpi. Femur, patella, tibia and proximal half of tarsus armed below with strong teeth (Fig. 8). Otherwise as in female.

Tarsal claw strong, armed below with single row of six small teeth (Fig. 9).

Measurements in mms. Body: Length, 3.25; Width, 2.1.

	Cox.	Troch.	Fem.	Pat.	Tib.	Met.	Tars.	Total
Leg I	1.0	.2	2.55	.6	2.65	2.7	5.5	15.2
Leg II85	.25	4.5	.85	4.75	3.0	8.75	22.95
Leg III	1.1	.25	2.85	.65	2.15	2.1	5.0	14.1
Leg IV	1.2	.2	4.15	.75	2.8	3.5	6.75	19.35
Pedipalp25	.75	.35	.5		1.0	2.85
Chelicerae—Basal .75, Second 1.5. Total 2.25								

Type. Male and Female type specimens deposited in collection of Australian Museum, Sydney.

Paratypes. Collection National Museum of Victoria, and Tube 2/62 Dominion Museum Coll., Wellington, N.Z.

Locality. The above species is apparently very common in and around Melbourne. The first specimens were received from Carnegie (collected by Mr. R. A. Dunn, after whom I have the pleasure of naming this species), where they were found in large numbers in a garden. Further records are Hampton (A. J. Swaby), and West Brunswick (J. Ros Garnet).

Figs. 1-9. *Nelima dunni* n. sp.

Fig. 1. Dorsal view of body of Male. Appendages omitted.

Fig. 2. Dorsal view of body of Female. Appendages omitted.

Fig. 3. Chelicera of Female.

Fig. 4. Chelicera of Male.

Fig. 5. Ventral aspect of the anterior portion of the body of Female.

Fig. 6. Pedipalp of Female.

Fig. 7. Enlargement of the distal portion of the tarsus in Fig. 6.

Fig. 8. Pedipalp of the Male.

Fig. 9. Enlargement of the distal portion of the tarsus in Fig. 8.